

# WOMEN OF THE DAY.

The Wives of Some American Diplomats.

THEIR SOCIAL POSITIONS AT FOREIGN CAPITALS.

BARTLETT TRIPP, FORMERLY OF SALT LAKE, AT VIENNA.

From a Pedagogue to an Ambassador—Mrs. Theodore Runyon—Mrs. W. W. Thomas—Mrs. J. S. Ewing—Miss Ethel Washburn—Miss Ruth Baker—New York Fashions—Some Novelties.

It is very pleasant to know that the wives of our American ministers now abroad, fulfilling foreign missions for their country, have met with an unusual degree of favor in their respective foreign courts; and are winning praise for their hospitality and etiquette in countries where the women of high position are brought up with these particular traits in view.

None have suffered at all by being placed within the fierce light that beats upon royalty; and nearly all have met with marked distinction shown in various court ways.

MRS. BAYARD IN ENGLAND.

Mrs. Bayard has been one of the most favored of all the ladies abroad. She has several times been received informally by Queen Victoria; and on occasions of festivities at Windsor she has been invited to remain over night in the castle. And with Victoria Regina this means as much as it does when you or I—wishing to be sure of the presence of a favorite—ask her to come early, stay all night and remain for a gossip next day.

Mrs. Bayard is, even at home with her own people, a very quiet, reserved



MRS. BARTLETT TRIPP.

woman, with little American enthusiasm or ardor. Perhaps this fact, with her highly educated mind, makes her all the more acceptable to the conservative English ladies. She was some of the smartest gowns seen at Windsor or at the smart balls of English society. Mrs. Bayard is not a young woman, although very delightful in conversation and as entertaining as a season's belle.

MRS. EUSTIS IN FRANCE.

Mrs. Eustis is really a pretty woman. But she is of the peculiar type of pretty women who cannot take a pretty picture—you have known just such yourself. The only one Mrs. Eustis has had taken for years was on board a yacht. The occasion was a very fashionable yachting party near Paris, and the inevitable snap-shooter who haunts even lovely Paris, thought to get a fair likeness of her with a parol over her head. The photograph was taken, but



It was even more disastrous than any of the others. Mrs. Eustis lives very beautifully in the French capital.

OUR AMBASSADRESS TO GERMANY.

Mrs. Theodore Runyon took to Germany a personality fitted to be much at home anywhere in the world. She combines New York birth with Moravian Seminary training, among the Moravian nuns of Pennsylvania, with knowledge picked up by extensive travel in the tropics and explorations, wherever it is permitted woman to travel. Mrs. Runyon and Mrs. Levi P. Fuller, wife of Vermont's governor, are said to be the most intelligently traveled women in the world. Mrs. Runyon entertains even as much as the German minister's wife has done for several administrations and is extremely liked abroad.

Mrs. Bartlett Tripp and her daughter, Miss Washburn, were among the first ladies received when the Empress Elisabeth of Austria emerged from her retirement a year ago and began—after her long mourning for her son Rudolph—to hold a limited court. The Empress admired Miss Washburn and made many inquiries concerning her personality. And when told that, at her own home in South Dakota, she was called "The Lily of the West," her Majesty exclaimed, "How very beautiful!"

REMARKED FOR HER FINE TOLLETTES.

Mrs. Tripp is one of the best dressed women in the Austrian capital. One of her favorite gowns, which might in-

deed be called her "picture dress," is of red velvet, trimmed with a heavy beaded material, set thick with pearls. She has adopted the Viennese styles, greatly to the pleasure of the Austrian ladies; and like them, contrives queer and picturesque neck arrangements to harmonize with her gowns.

Miss Washburn, a very stately brunette, dresses in white on public occasions; as, although presented to the Empress in semi-state, she has not yet



MRS. W. W. THOMAS.

passed through the society ordeal known as "coming out."

Mrs. W. W. Thomas, Jr., has led a life always in court circles; and its most important events have been, one might say, "natal events." On her 17th birthday she was presented at the Swedish court—the daughter of a nobleman. On her 18th birthday she married an American gentleman traveling abroad, Mr. W. W. Thomas. On the day she was 20, she presented Sweden with a little Swedish-American boy, and two years from that day found her again making her bow to King Oscar, as the wife of a minister plenipotentiary. Mrs. Thomas is one of those beautiful women who go through life listening to sonnets dedicated to "My lady's eyebrow," and whose path is strewn with the fragrant flowers of adulation. The Swedish Beauty and Art Reviews teem with pictures of her and allusions to her loveliness. Her dinners are declared to be international poems.

AT THE BELGIAN COURT.

Mrs. Ewing, with her two daughters and son, in Belgium, are entertaining and being entertained more than has been customary in that country. Every week they give large dinners, and frequently they are invited into the royal families of the Belgians. Indeed, in that country, the "caste" line is so rigorously drawn that the ladies must associate with nobles or with no one at all.

A DIPLOMAT'S DAUGHTER.

Miss Ruth Baker, daughter of the minister to Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador, is a young woman who, if she were in a fashionable court, would reign as one of its most renowned beauties. In Minnesota, she was considered the fairest belle in a state of fair-weather fame.

Although very young, Miss Baker has seen a good deal of the world, and is her father's inseparable and loyal companion.

An incident will show the American pluck and womanly determination needed, even in these days of peace, by

to her native shores singing, not the strains of regret for glories left behind, but rather shouting with true American emphasis, the words, "There's no place like home!" AUGUSTA PRESSCOTT.

NEW YORK FASHIONS.

Charming Trouseaux For Warm Weather—A Russian Artist Who Invented the Popular Bolero Corset Cover.

Madame Mode's New York cousin has at last sternly decided that white, purest snowy, white-cotton and linen at that—is the only thing possible for correct underwear. The colored silk petticoat is still, of course, to have its uses—it is too valuable and convenient a garment to be done away with; then, too, when one stops to go deeply into the subject, somehow the silk petticoat does not seem exactly to belong to the uncanny mushroom growth of other colored underwear.

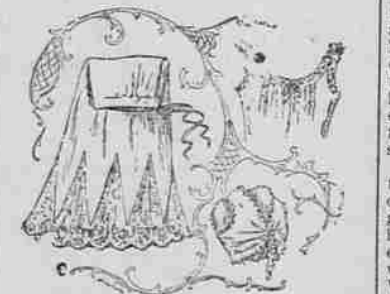
Linen cambric, or to use its French name, batiste, lawn and dimity, old-fashioned dimity, woven in half invisible checks and stripes, are some of the materials used; and in some cases dotted muslin—not dotted Swiss, which is harsh to wear and difficult to launder—appears in yokes and fuffings. Other trimmings are hand embroidery



GOWNS AND WRAP FOR COOLER DAYS.

and real and imitation Valenciennes lace, point de Paris, old German and the thick meshed mull lace, French or fancy laces are also profusely used, and to the familiar designs of these have been added many novelties in pattern. Besides the lace trimming, there are rosettes, knots and even drawing strings of ribbon, also called wash ribbon, highly finished, and which is glad to remark—white like the garment.

Skirts and chemises show a perceptible widening as compared with those of a year ago. The latter are also longer, to do away with the uncomfortable



GRACEFUL UNDERGARMENTS.

table short petticoat, and the slip, or "baby" model, which is without sleeves or opening, is a favorite design for the slip chemise, and the flat, ungathered neck and arm holes are hand embroidered and finished with a background ruffle of narrow Valenciennes lace. The Carmen, or Spanish model is the most popular for skirts, that is for dress skirts in sheer materials, nainsook, Swiss and lawn.

Corsets for summer wear are made only in white, and for slight figures in open work or skeleton canvases. One of the newest models for the slight figure is the Bernadette, which is a short bolero-like contrivance with shoulder straps; it leaves the waist entirely free, confining only the bust, and is made in the skeleton canvas, satin and linen. When a little lace is necessary the ready-made classique may be suggested as being exceedingly graceful and keeping its shape quite as well as the correct made to order.

The bolero corset cover, which lies under the bust in a soft bow, is now made of white mull and simply hemmed. Here is a touching little story



FINE LINGERIE.

ry told of the first bolero corset cover ever made; a pin lawn, by the way, and trimmed with the coarsest of cotton lace. A Russian lady, by name Prussona Stanoff, had gone to Paris to seek fame and fortune in the field of letters, and found only misery. She had not to the end of everything, the pot had not even boiled for days, as the French say with grim pathos, and at last, inspired by the phantoms of hunger, she shut herself up in her room and designed the bolero underwaist out of old newspapers. This she reproduced immediately in the pink lawn and cotton lace—she cut off her long black hair to get the money for materials—and armed with the first bolero corset cover ever dreamed of, probably, she went to the Bon Marche and sold it as a model for fifty dollars.

Much as she is maligned, after all Madame Mode can sometimes do some of her daughters a good turn.

NINA FITCH.

INEXPENSIVE ELEGANCIES.

The Gentlewoman Can Be Ultra Fastidious in Her Toilet at Small Cost.

Elegances of today who revel in exquisite refinements of the toilet often wonder how the poor dear grandmothers ever managed at all without listerine for the teeth, rosoline for the nails, besides a thousand and one small luxuries that cater to feminine fastidiousness at present.

She who knows enough to keep a bottle of ammonia on her dressing table and use it generously has learned a secret of genuine thrift. With a majority of women the one item of corsets is a heavy yearly expense. Black and colored stays are always doubtful in taste and the snow white ones so largely preferred are very readily tarnished. To have them pass through the laundry means a mishapened weakened texture, and professional cleaners charge a dollar or more for the dry process. The way to manage them is to give one's corsets a sun bath not less than three times a week, and about once in seven days go over the entire surface with a stout nail brush dipped in a soapy mixture of ammonia and water.

Pretty much the same treatment applied to dress shields will enable one to wear a pair indefinitely. But in very warm weather they should be washed

VENETIAN IRONWORK.

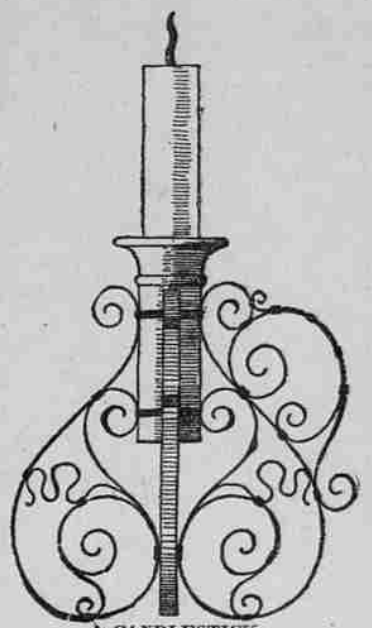
PRACTICAL DIRECTIONS FOR MAKING CHARMING DECORATIONS.

The Making of a Candlestick—A Pretty Jardiniere—A Glove Box—The Tools and Materials.

The idea of constructing small objects of furniture, bric-a-brac, etc., of light iron is not by any means a new one, but originated in Venice, Italy, where, for many years, as an industry, it was carried on by the women and children as a means of livelihood.

The necessary tools with which to work the thin iron are a stout pair of shears, a round and a flat-nosed pair of pliers of medium size and a small tack hammer.

The materials required are a few thin sheets of iron of the best stove pipe quality, that can be purchased from a



A CANDLESTICK.

tinmith for a few cents each; also some soft iron wire of assorted sizes, some quite fine, about the thickness of a good sized pin.

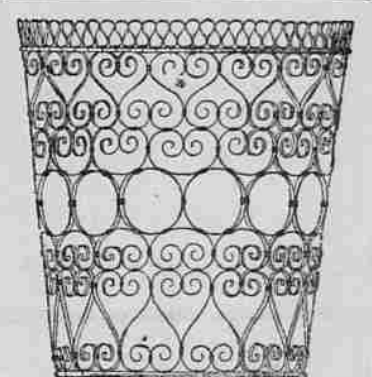
With these few materials and tools everything here illustrated can be constructed.

THE MAKING OF A CANDLESTICK.

To make a candlestick similar to that shown in illustration No. 1, obtain an old tin candlestick and remove the bottom or dish part, leaving the stem and shears cut off the bottom part of the stick or socket, so that the remaining part from the flange at the top to the bottom of it will measure three inches in length.

Have a tinmith solder a bottom in it, and it will then be ready to receive the scroll work, feet and handle.

On a smooth piece of brown paper draw with a lead pencil an outline the size of the candle socket, then one complete scroll side, making it four and one-half inches high and two inches wide across the large scroll at the bottom. The distance from the bottom of the socket to the lower end of the scroll should be two and one-quarter inches. Obtain a small piece of stick a trifle less than a quarter of an inch square and two and one-quarter inches long, and with a steel wire nail driven through the bottom of the socket and into one end of the stick, secure it to the under side of the socket, where, as



A JARDINIERE.

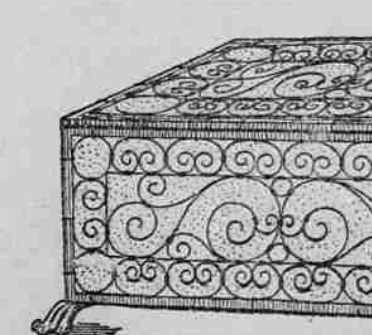
a center staff, the inside edge of each of the four scroll feet may be secured to it.

Having drawn the plan, cut from a sheet of iron strips a little less than a quarter of an inch in width and with your fingers and the flat and round-nosed pliers bend them in the shapes indicated in the plan.

Where the bands of metal or the scrolls touch each other they are to be bound together with wire or with little strips of metal.

Figure 1 shows the first stage of making the metal clasp and figure 2 shows the finished union. The metal used for these clasps can be little pieces of iron the same as used for the scroll strips, but if the iron should not be of the best quality, it might crack or break when bent too sharp, and in that case bands of sheet brass or zinc may be used instead, and when painted black will have the appearance of iron.

When the four scroll sides have been made, bind the upper part of them to



A GLOVE BOX.

the socket and the lower part to the square stick in the position shown in the illustration; then make a handle of two strips in proportion to the one illustrated, and fasten it to one of the sides, and the metalwork of your candlestick will be completed.

HOW TO PAINT IT.

To give the ironwork a good finish and prevent it from rusting, it will be necessary to coat it over with a good preparation. Ordinary black paint thinned with turpentine will answer very well, but a lasting and perfect paint can be made by purchasing a small can of ivory black ground in oil and thinning it to the consistency of rich milk with Japan dryer and spirits of turpentine, one part of the former to two parts of the latter. Mix these two mediums together in a bottle and add to the paint afterward. Two or three coats of this paint will be sufficient to give the iron a good finish, and it should be applied with a soft hair brush such as you may purchase at a drug store for five or ten cents.

With the addition of a pretty colored candle and a canopy shade the effect of this little stick will be very pleasing, and will make a pretty ornament.

A PRETTY JARDINIERE.

An idea for decorating the exterior of an ordinary flower pot, or a jardiniere, is shown in illustration No. 3,

and consists of a network formed of S scrolls, hoops and others bound together. When constructing a grille of this description it is always necessary to begin at the bottom and work up, form two hoops of stout wire, one for the bottom and the other to enclose the pot near the top, the bottom line of the scrolls should be in the form of the letter S, or as shown in figure No. 7; they are formed from a strip of metal with the round nosed pliers, one end is to be curled into a spiral, as shown in figure No. 8, and the other end treated in a similar manner, having the spiral curl in an opposite direction, so the completed S will appear like figure No. 7. Fasten these scrolls back to back and face to face to completely enclose the lower part of the pot; above them arrange a line of scrolls similar in shape to that shown in figure No. 3. To form a scroll like this bend a strip of iron in the form of a V, as shown in figure No. 4, and with the round nosed pliers begin to curl one end in, as shown in figure No. 5, continue curling it in until one complete side has been formed to look like figure No. 6, then treat the other end in a similar manner, and the result if made nicely, will be a perfect scroll, as shown in figure No. 3.

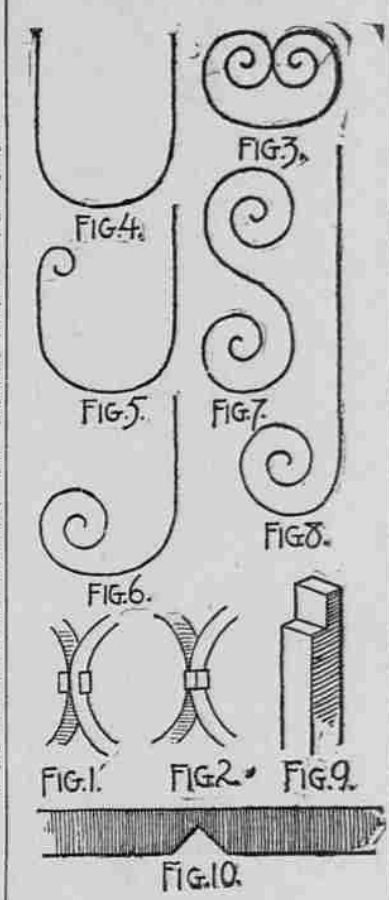
Above the top hoop of wire make and fasten a grill of iron; it is comparatively easy to make. Give this iron work a coat of red lead first before the black finish is applied, as the dampness from plants or earth will work under the black paint otherwise and cause the iron to rust.

A GLOVE BOX.

Illustration No. 4 suggests a charming idea for a glove and handkerchief box, and will form a very attractive bit of furniture for a bureau or dressing table.

It should be about ten inches long, five or six inches wide and four inches high, not including the claw feet under the corners, which will raise it up an inch or so, and make the total height about five inches. Get from a carpenter some pine or white wood sticks three-sixteenths of an inch square, and of them form the framework of the sides and lid. Make two frames ten inches long and four wide for the ends and one five by ten inches for the lid.

Join the corners by cutting at the



PRACTICAL DESIGNS.

end of each stick a lap, as shown in figure No. 9, and place them together so the laps will fit each other and secure them with glue and fine steel wire nails. Lepage's liquid glue will be found to work well for this purpose, as it will not require heating to make it soft, as ordinary glue has to be treated.

Lay one of the frames for a side down on a piece of paper, and with a soft leadpencil mark the outline of it; then by following the design of the illustration, mark in the lines and thus making on paper the full size pattern of the design you are to work out in iron.

Make a pattern for the ends and tops, and then cut a sheet of iron into strips three-sixteenths of an inch wide. The outside lines of scrolls are to be fastened to the framework of wood with iron wire, but are to be fastened to each other and to the other scrolls, forming the design with the little bands of metal, as described.

Do not join the frames together until all the grille work has been made and fastened in place; then the four sides may be wired together, and a thin wooden bottom made and fastened in position with thin steel wire nails driven through the lower frame of the wood frames and into the edge of the wood. The lid can be fastened to the box with two small brass hinges. Use very sharp, thin screws to fasten them on with, as stout ones would split the wood, while long ones would pass too far through to hold well.

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